

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 /060 W

----- 015869

R 081722Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3125

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18885

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: MANEUVERING WITHIN THE CDU/CSU FRAKTION

BEGIN SUMMARY: A LEADING CDU POLITICIAN, WHO IS A  
CONFIDANT OF HELMUT KOHL'S, GAVE AN EMBASSY OFFICER THE  
FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON THE MANEUVERING THAT IS TAKING  
PLACE WITHIN THE CDU/CSU FRAKTION PRIOR TO THE CONVENING  
OF THE 8TH BUNDESTAG. KOHL HAS FINALLY MADE THE  
NECESSARY MENTAL ADJUSTMENT AND HAS FULLY ACCEPTED THE  
CONSEQUENCES OF HIS MOVE TO BONN. HE PLANS TO PLAY AN  
ACTIVE ROLE NOT ONLY AS LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION IN THE  
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BUNDESTAG, BUT HE HOPES ALSO TO DIRECT THE REJUVENATION

OF VARIOUS STATE-LEVEL CDU ORGANIZATIONS FROM BONN.  
OUR SOURCES CLAIM THAT KOHL WILL INSIST THAT BIEDENKOPF  
MAKE A DECISION WHETHER HE IS GOING TO DEVOTE HIS  
ENERGIES TO BEING CDU SECRETARY GENERAL OR IF HE WANTS  
TO USE HIS BUNDESTAG SEAT AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR HIS  
POLITICAL AMIBITIONS (READ: FUTURE CHANCELLOR  
CANDIDATE). END SUMMARY.

1. ONE OF THE CDU LEADING POLITICIANS, WHO IS A FRIEND  
AND ADVISOR TO HELMUT KOHL, TOLD US RECENTLY THAT THERE  
IS CONSIDERABLE MANEUVERING GOING ON WITHIN THE CDU/CSU  
FRAKTION IN PREPARING FOR THE 8TH BUNDESTAG. KOHL HAS  
FINALLY MADE THE MENTAL ADJUSTMENT NECESSARY IF HE IS TO  
DO AN EFFECTIVE JOB IN BONN. THE CDU CHAIRMAN NOW  
ACCEPTS THE FACT THAT MAINZ IS A CLOSED  
CHAPTER AND HE LOOKS FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGES WHICH  
LIE AHEAD.

2. ACCORDING TO THIS FRIEND, KOHL'S TALENTS ARE  
PERHAPS BETTER SUITED, AT LEAST AT THIS TIME, TO LEADING  
THE CDU/CSU FRAKTION THAN THEY WOULD BE TO CARRYING OUT  
THE DUTIES OF CHANCELLOR. HE LIKES THE GIVE AND TAKE  
OF PARLIAMENTARY POLITICS AND KNOWS HOW TO OPERATE  
WITHIN THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT. KOHL PLANS TO MAKE CDU  
DEPUTY WALTER WALLMANN HIS CHIEF OF STAFF WITH RESPONSI-  
BILITY FOR CORDINATING POLICIES IN THE FRAKTION. SOME  
OF THE FRAKTION MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE CSU  
DEPUTIES, RESENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS POSITION BUT  
KOHL WILL GO AHEAD ANYHOW. WALLMANN AND KOHL HAVE A  
CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

3. ALTHOUGH WALLMANN IS MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN KOHL,  
HE IMPRESSED THE CDU CHAIRMAN WITH THE WAY HE CARRIED  
OUT THE TASK KOHL HAD ASSIGNED HIM, OF NEGOTIATING  
THE 4TH PARTY OUT OF EXISTENCE BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG  
ELECTION. WALLMANN HAS ALSO DEMONSTRATED HIS "GOOD  
SOLDIER" QUALITY BY AGREEING TO KOHL'S PLEAS THAT HE  
RUN FOR THE POST OF FRANKFURT MAYOR EVEN THOUGH THE CDU  
HAS NO CHANCE OF WINNING.

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4. ALFRED DREGGER IS EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED AS ONE OF  
THE FRAKTION DEPUTY CHAIRMEN. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE,  
KOHL PLANS TO DIVIDE UP THE DUTIES OF THE FRAKTION  
FOREIGN POLICY SPOKESMAN. VON WEISZAECKER WILL BE THE  
SPOKESMAN FOR WEST EUROPEAN POLICY AND KOHL PROBABLY  
WILL HANDLE THE REST OF THE WORLD. HE WOULD LIKE TO  
MAKE VON WEISZAECKER SPOKESMAN ON ALL FOREIGN POLICY  
MATTERS BUT THIS WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE MORE

CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS IN THE FRAKTION, PARTICULARLY  
WHEN IT COMES TO INNER-GERMAN POLICY.

5. IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR WHETHER STRAUSS WILL REMAIN  
IN BONN OR RETURN TO BAVARIA TO BE THE SUCCESSOR TO  
MINISTER-PRESIDENT GOPPEL. STRAUSS VETOED STUECKLEN'S  
CANDIDACY FOR THE BUNDESTAG PRESIDENCY BECAUSE: A) HE  
DISLIKES STUECKLEN, B) HE DID NOT WANT THE CSU BEHOLDEN  
TO THE CDU FRAKTION FOR HAVING ELECTED A BAVARIAN  
BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT AND C) HE ARGUES THAT THE CSU HAS A  
CLAIM ON THE FEDERAL PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN 1979.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18885

6. AT THE PRESENT TIME, IT APPEARS THAT CARSTENS WILL  
BE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE 8TH BUNDESTAG. IT IS  
UNCLEAR WHAT ROLE BARZEL WILL PLAY IN THE NEW BUNDESTAG.  
SOME CDU INSIDERS FEAR THAT HE WILL BE A DISRUPTIVE  
ELEMENT BECAUSE HE WILL BE FRUSTRATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE NOTHING BETTER  
THAN TO TEACH THE  
YOUNG SECRETARY-GENERAL A BIT OF HUMILITY. THEY FEEL  
THAT HE IS ALREADY ACTING LIKE THE HEIR-APPARENT TO  
KOHL AS CHANCELLOR-CANDIDATE WHEN IN FACT HE IS A  
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FRESHMAN DEPUTY WHO HAS YET TO EARN HIS SPURS IN THE  
ROUGH AND TUMBLE OF PARLIAMENTARY POLITICS.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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HELMUT KOHL'S, GAVE AN EMBASSY OFFICE  
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